

City of Clewiston
Special Magistrate
Regular Hearing
August 24, 2011

The City of Clewiston Special Magistrate held its regular meeting in the city hall commission chambers, 115 West Ventura Avenue, Clewiston, Florida, on Wednesday, August 24, 2011. The meeting was called to order at 2:00 p.m. by Magistrate Watt.

Attendance

Magistrate present: James L. Watt
Personnel present: Pete Garcia, Travis Reese, Debra Towner
Visitor(s) present: Mazen Abujarour, Lubna Alyosef

Pledge of Allegiance.

Special Magistrate Watt briefly summarized the purpose of the hearing.

Approval of minutes from June 22, 2011: Let the record show an accurate reflection of the proceedings.

Swearing in of all parties intending to present testimony.

Additions/deletions to agenda: Mr. Reese stated none.

Consent agenda: Mr. Reese stated that all cases are now in compliance with city codes. Let the record show all properties in compliance.

New business:

Case No. 11-0255: Magistrate Watt announced that because the only members of the audience were the owners of the business listed under "other business" on the agenda that he would hear Case #11-0255 first.

Mr. Reese stated that there was an order of non-compliance for a total of ninety-three (93) days before they came into compliance for a total fee of \$2,625.00. Ms. Lubna Alyosef requested a reduction of the amount of the lien stating that they came into compliance and times are tough. Mr. Watt listened to testimony from the code enforcement officer and agreed to reduce the total amount to \$600.00 payable to the City of Clewiston within fifteen (15) days of approval by the City Commission at their next regular meeting.

Case No. 11-0290: Magistrate Watt announced that the purpose of the public hearing was to discuss and receive input from all interested parties regarding case number 11-0290, for the property located at 716 East Alverdez Avenue, owner of record, Jesus Vazquez.

Mr. Reese stated the violation is illegal construction, sec. 18-46 and presented pictures of the property.

Code Officer Garcia verified the pictures are of the property, as the owner was not present. The owner's brother, Silvio Vazquez, had met with Code Officer Garcia who agreed that the property is now in compliance.

The City of Clewiston recommended dismissal of this case.

Mr. Watt ruled that case number 11-0290 is in compliance and is dismissed.

Case No. 11-0299: Magistrate Watt announced that the purpose of the public hearing was to discuss and receive input from all interested parties regarding case number 11-0299, for the property located at 316 West Avenida del Rio, owner of record, Jose Ibiatorremendia.

Mr. Reese stated the violation is illegal construction of a non-conforming structure, sec. 18-46 and presented copies of a permit application along with product approval for the windows being installed at this property. A permit has been issued to a licensed contractor hired to finish the job.

The City of Clewiston recommended dismissal of this case.

Mr. Watt ruled that case number 11-0290 is in compliance and is dismissed.

Case No. 11-0306: Magistrate Watt announced that the purpose of the public hearing was to discuss and receive input from all interested parties regarding case number 11-0306, for the property located at 723 Cortez Street, owner of record, Gerald Nicholas Smith.

Mr. Reese stated the violation is lack of landscape maintenance, sec. 18-640 and presented pictures of the property.

Code Officer Garcia verified the pictures are of the property, as the owner was not present. The owner had met with Code Officer Garcia who agreed that the property is now in compliance.

The City of Clewiston recommended dismissal of this case.

Mr. Watt ruled that case number 11-0306 is in compliance and is dismissed.

Case No. 11-0339: Magistrate Watt announced that the purpose of the public hearing was to discuss and receive input from all interested parties regarding case number 11-0339, for the property located at 601 West Haiti Avenue, owner of record, Iris Mullings.

Mr. Reese stated the violation is illegal construction, sec. 18-46 and presented pictures of the property.

Code Officer Garcia verified the pictures are of the property, as the owner was not present. Proper notice was given and the owner has not yet responded to the notice of violation.

The City of Clewiston recommended two (2) weeks to submit an application to the building department.

Mr. Watt ruled that case number 11-0339 is not in compliance and ruled that the owner submit a permit application for the addition to the house with fifteen (15) days of this meeting. If the owner does not comply a fine of \$25 per day plus a \$150 admin fee to start accruing on Sept. 7, 2011 and continue until compliance is met.

Case No. 11-0351: Magistrate Watt announced that the purpose of the public hearing was to discuss and receive input from all interested parties regarding case number 11-0351, for the property located at 913 Popash Circle, owner of record, Anthony B. Chihocky.

Mr. Reese stated the violation is an expired permit, sec. 18-47 and presented pictures of the property.

Code Officer Garcia verified the pictures are of the property, as the owner was not present. The owner had met with Building Inspector Reese who agreed that the property is now in compliance.

The City of Clewiston recommended dismissal of this case.

Mr. Watt ruled that case number 11-0351 is in compliance and is dismissed.

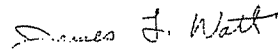
Other Business:

Case No. 11-0255: See beginning of minutes for discussion of Atalla's Quick Stop LLC (Diva's Beauty Supply) reduction of lien request.

Magistrate Watt closed the public hearing after receiving no further comments, written or oral, from the audience or the board.

Adjournment:

The meeting adjourned at 2:36 p.m.


James L. Watt, Special Magistrate